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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 15939-17

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Applicant: Chen et al. #6/a

Serial No. 09/750,551

Filing Date: December 28, 2000 *Hawkins*

Title: Electric Spindle Motor and Method Having Magnetic

Starting/Stopping Device

Group Art Unit No. 2834

Examiner: D. D. Le

7-12-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the office action of March 19, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

A marked up copy of the paragraph is appended hereto to show changes.

✓ Page 7, line 21, change "51" to -- 52 --.

✓ Page 7, line 22, change "52" to -- 51 --.

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a' The magnetic starting/stopping device comprises a stator lamination 52, a coil 51 and a magnetic platter 53. By a control circuit, at the starting moment, current is supplied to coil 52, which together with magnetic platter 53 generates an axial force to separate the whole rotary sub-assembly of the spindle from the base sub-assembly rapidly before the spindle rotates.

While in stopping process, the magnetic force generated by the starting/stopping assistant device holds the rotating portion of the spindle motor quickly and helps the spindle motor to reach steady state in shorter time. Therefore, the device effectively reduces the friction and wear of thrust bearings, resulting in fast starting/stopping, and results in a worn particle free condition. Together with the oil sealing devices 41 and 42, the contamination free condition is safely guaranteed.